GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3682
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2002
SETTING UP OF SWAPC FOR DOMESTIC BIOTECHNOLOGY SECTOR
IQBAL AHMED SARADGI

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Department of Biotechnology has proposed a Single Window Application ProcessingCell (SWAPC) to be headed by a senior scientist;

(b) if so, whether this will be as part of a new regulatory system for the domestic biotechnology sector;

(c) whether the move formed part of the recent recommendations on biotechnology sector made by the Confederation of Indian Industry, requiring all concerned agencies to work together and allow continued investment to fund the process

(d) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT)

(a), (b), (c) & (d) : Yes, Sir. Within the existing regulatory system under Rules-1989 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has set up a Single Window Application Processing Cell (SWAPC), headed by its senio scientist to deal with all the applications on the recombinant DNA products and substances. This cell is created in public interests for easing the compliance of the regulatory procedures. Proformas for submitting applications to Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM) of the DBT have been put on the web site (www.dbtindia.org).